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JAMES C. PETERS and SOUHEIL S. BADRAN
13

14 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
15 **NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

16 JOHN E. ABDO, as Trustee of the JOHN E.
17 ABDO TRUST DATED JUNE 11, 2014, et
al.,

Case No. 17-cv-00851 EDL
Case No. 17-cv-01232 EDL

18 Plaintiffs,
19 v.
20 MICHAEL FITZSIMMONS, et al.,
21 Defendants.

**DEFENDANTS' NOTICE OF
MOTION AND MOTION TO
COMPEL DOCUMENTS AND
TESTIMONY FROM LATHAM &
WATKINS, LLP RESPONSIVE TO
DEFENDANTS' SUBPOENAS**

Date: October 1, 2019
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Courtroom: E, 19th Floor

22 RISING TIDE I, LLC et al.,

23 Plaintiffs,
24 v.
25 MICHAEL FITZSIMMONS, et al.,

26 Defendants.

NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION

TO PLAINTIFFS AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:

3 **PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that on October 1, 2019 at 10 a.m. or as soon thereafter as the
4 parties may be heard, in the United States District Court, Northern District of California, located at
5 450 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, California 95102, before the Honorable Elizabeth D.
6 LaPorte, Courtroom E, on the 19th Floor, Defendants Michael R. Fitzsimmons ("Fitzsimmons"),
7 Peter Lai, Chris G. Power, Peter J. Goettner, Christian Borcher, Ernest D. Del., Marc S. Yi, James
8 C. Peters, Souheil S. Badran ("Defendants") will and hereby do move the Court for an order
9 compelling the production of documents responsive to subpoenas served on Latham & Watkins,
10 LLP ("Latham") and compelling testimony related thereto over Latham's attorney-client privilege
11 and work product objections.

Defendants bring this motion on grounds that: (i) the Delivery Agent Audit Committee members (Defendants Power, Goettner, and Borcher), as well as the other individual Defendants, hold the privilege over the Subpoenaed Matters with Latham and therefore can waive it; (ii) no valid privilege exists in the Subpoenaed Matters with Latham as Delivery Agent waived any such privilege before a Bankruptcy Trustee was appointed; (iii) neither Latham nor the Trustee can reasonably continue the fiction that the attorney-client privilege will maintain the confidentiality of the Subpoenaed Matters; (iv) fairness and equity require waiver of any privilege; and (v) the attorney-client privilege does not protect from disclosure non-privileged information that Latham has not produced.

21 This Motion is based on this Notice of Motion and Motion, the Memorandum of Points and
22 Authorities in Support thereof, the Declarations of Giovanna Ferrari, Gregory Markel, Chris
23 Power, James Peters, Mark Smith, Jeffrey Hagan, Michael Fitzsimmons, and upon such other and
24 further oral and written materials as may be presented at or before the hearing on this matter. For
25 the sake of judicial economy, Defendants join in and fully incorporate all arguments set forth in
26 Defendants' Opposition to Plaintiffs' Motion to Strike as if set forth fully herein rather than include
27 them in full in this Memorandum. Defendants also respectfully request that this Court resolve the

1 Motion to Strike and the instant motion concurrently since the issues in both motions are
2 inextricably linked.

3 DATED: August 27, 2019

SEYFARTH SHAW LLP

4 By /s/ *Giovanna Ferrari*

5 Giovanna Ferrari

Attorneys for Defendants

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1 **I. INTRODUCTION**

2 Defendants Michael R. Fitzsimmons, Peter Lai, Chris G. Power, Peter J. Goettner,
 3 Christian Borcher, Ernest D. Del, Marc S. Yi, James C. Peters, and Souheil S. Badran (collectively,
 4 the “Defendants”) seek an order from the Court directing Latham & Watkins, LLP to comply with
 5 Defendants’ subpoenas, and to produce the documents and materials described therein, and provide
 6 testimony regarding the same.

7 Defendants are former officers and directors of Delivery Agent, Inc. Delivery Agent filed
 8 for Chapter 11 protection in September 2016 during which time it sold substantially all of its assets
 9 to its third-party creditor Hillair Capital Management LLC (“Hillair”) (which, upon the close of the
 10 sale, transferred the assets to its affiliate, Connekt, Inc. (“Connekt”)) before converting its
 11 bankruptcy to a Chapter 7 liquidation in May 2017. Only thereafter, in June 2017, was a
 12 Bankruptcy Trustee (the “Trustee”) appointed.

13 Plaintiffs filed the instant actions against Defendants in February 2017, alleging that
 14 Defendants made false statements and omitted material information about two investigations into
 15 an H&M 2014 Super Bowl advertising campaign, its decision to change auditors, and the effect
 16 that change in auditors had on the prospect of Delivery Agent’s contemplated initial IPO.

17 At all times, Latham served as Delivery Agent’s counsel and advised its Audit Committee
 18 and its individual members with respect to: (1) the internal investigation of Delivery Agent’s 2014
 19 Super Bowl campaign (RFPs¹ 1B and 10); (2) the external, third party investigation of the 2014
 20 Super Bowl campaign and the resulting remediation plan (RFPs 1B and 1C); (3) the disclosures in
 21 Financing Documents (*i.e.*, the Series F and G Purchase Agreements, Schedule of Exceptions, and
 22 convertible notes for which Defendants signed Consents) regarding potential liability arising out of
 23 the 2014 Super Bowl ad campaign (RFPs 1A, 2, 4, 5, 6, and 7); (4) the decision to change IPO
 24 auditors from Deloitte & Touche (“Deloitte”) to Grant Thornton, LLP (“Grant Thornton”) (RFPs
 25 1D, 3, and 11); and (5) the Form S-1, Item 304 to the Securities and Exchange Commission
 26

27 ¹ “RFPs” refers to the specific Requests For Production in Defendants’ subpoenas to
 28 Latham. Defendants served 14 RFPs on Latham. Declaration of Giovanna Ferrari (“Ferrari
 Dec.”) at ¶10, Ex. B.

1 ("SEC") which required a statement of why Delivery Agent changed auditors (RFPs 1A and 1D)
 2 (the "Subpoenaed Matters").²

3 In connection with their claims, Plaintiffs subpoenaed from Connekt all documents it
 4 acquired from Delivery Agent in its possession, custody or control, which included over 27,000
 5 attorney-client communications and attorney work product documents; **over 12,000 of those**
 6 **involved Latham.** Ferrari Dec. at ¶¶22-23.³ All of those Connekt documents were produced to
 7 Plaintiffs in 2019. The Trustee has taken no position on whether it holds any privilege over the
 8 documents disclosed and any undisclosed documents regarding the same subject matter, or
 9 whether the privilege was waived before his appointment. Even so, no reasonable basis exists to
 10 maintain the fiction that the Subpoenaed Matters are confidential; once the proverbial cat is out of
 11 the bag, the privilege's underlying purpose of maintaining confidentiality is defeated and the
 12 communications are no longer worthy of protection.

13 Given Plaintiffs' ongoing and selective use of the attorney-client communications and
 14 attorney work-product produced by Connekt,⁴ and to defend against Plaintiffs' claims, Defendants
 15 subpoenaed Latham, seeking production of documents regarding the Subpoenaed Matters. Latham
 16 does not challenge the relevance of the requested materials to this action. Rather, it objects to the
 17 subpoenas on the grounds that it seeks the production of documents protected from disclosure by
 18 the attorney-client privilege and the attorney work product doctrine. Thus, Latham states that it will
 19

20 ² RFP 1 subparts E-H and RFP 12 (regarding the likelihood of an IPO and financial
 21 factors effecting the same after the change in auditors), RFPs 2 and 14 (communications and
 22 documents to Plaintiffs); RFP 8 (referencing documents wherein the investigations and change of
 23 accountants allegedly should have been disclosed); RFP 9 (regarding the termination of
 24 individuals involved in the 2014 Superbowl ad campaign); and RFP 13 (communications with
 25 third parties regarding the investigations and change of accountants) are necessarily subsumed by
 26 these 5 categories because the 5 categories and the RFPs referenced in this footnote all relate to
 27 Latham's involvement in the investigations into the 2014 Superbowl ad campaign and their
 28 recommendation to change auditors, which Plaintiffs allege should have been disclosed to
 investors and caused the loss of Plaintiffs' investments when an IPO became impossible.

29 ³ Latham's communications and work product are in over 19,700 documents produced by
 30 the parties and third parties. Ferrari Dec. at ¶25.

31 ⁴ Plaintiffs have used over 85 of the documents in all 11 depositions taken so far --
 32 including third party depositions -- while seeking to preclude Defendants from using them
 33 through a Motion to Strike. Ferrari Dec. at ¶¶28-40, Exs. O-T; see 17-cv-01232 Dkt. 102.

1 not produce documents until it receives either (1) direction from the holder of the privilege; or (2) a
 2 court order determining whether otherwise applicable privileges or protections have been waived.

3 Latham's objections are not well taken. As set forth more fully below, Latham ignores that
 4 both the Audit Committee and Delivery Agent's former officers and directors hold an independent
 5 privilege in the Subpoenaed Matters separate and apart from the corporate privilege and, thus, can
 6 waive it. **Latham, in fact, admitted the Audit Committee's independent privilege on the**
 7 **topics at issue in a 2015 email.** Ferrari Dec. at ¶41, Exs. U. Moreover, even if a corporate
 8 privilege attached, no valid underlying privilege remains in the Subpoenaed Matters for the Trustee
 9 to assert because Delivery Agent waived the privilege before his appointment. **Indeed, as will be**
 10 **demonstrated below, the attorney-client communications with Latham were waived in 2014**
 11 **and 2015, when Delivery Agent was still a going concern (i.e., even before bankruptcy**
 12 **proceedings).** See, e.g., *Id.*, wherein Latham says anything distributed outside the Company, like
 13 the internal investigation report and anything shared with Deloitte, "is not a privileged
 14 communication." Certainly, no reasonable basis exists to maintain the fiction that attaching the
 15 attorney-client privilege to Latham's communications regarding the Subpoenaed Matters will
 16 maintain their confidentiality. And given Plaintiffs' conduct, fairness and equity also dictate that
 17 any privilege attached to the Subpoenaed Matters be waived.

18 In any event, the attorney-client privilege does not excuse Latham's failure to produce non-
 19 privileged documents or communications (*i.e.*, RFP 2 seeking communications between Latham
 20 and Plaintiffs, RFP 13 seeking communications between Latham and third parties, and any
 21 documents where Latham provided Defendants with findings of fact rather than advice).
 22 Accordingly, Defendants respectfully request the Court enter an order finding a waiver of the
 23 attorney-client privilege and work-product protections applicable to the Subpoenaed Matters and
 24 compelling Latham to comply with the subpoenas.

25 II. FACTUAL BACKGROUND

26 1. Plaintiffs, Delivery Agent, and Defendants.

27 Plaintiffs are sophisticated venture-stage investors who invested in DA between 2014 and
 28 2016, purportedly based on the promise Delivery Agent would go public.

Delivery Agent, a technology company which enabled direct purchases of merchandise through multi-channel media, was founded in the mid-2000s. From 2013 and 2016, Delivery Agent considered an IPO. At various times, Mark Smith, Brian Erb, and Mark Epstein were Delivery Agent's General Counsel. Declarations of Mark Smith ("Smith Dec.") at ¶1, Jeffrey Hagan ("Hagan Dec.") at ¶¶3-4. Delivery Agent's Board included, at varying times, all Defendants except Lai who was an Officer. Peters and Fitzsimmons were also Officers. Defendants Power, Borcher, Goettner, Badran, Del, and Yi were outside directors. *See Amended Complaints ("FACs")*.

2. Delivery Agent's Audit Committee.

Delivery Agent's Board had committees tasked with specific matters. The Audit Committee was tasked with handling any matters associated with auditors and finances, and working with Delivery Agent's CFOs, Mike Novelty ("Novelty") and Jeffrey Hagan ("Hagan"). Hagan Dec. at ¶2. The Audit Committee was chaired by outside director Defendant Power (the CFO of LifeLock); outside director Defendants Goettner and Borcher were the other members. *See FACs*. From 2014-2015, in addition to routine Audit Committee duties, the Board delegated the handling of two investigations into Delivery Agent's 2014 Superbowl ad campaign, which ultimately required the Audit Committee to consider and approve a remediation plan, to consider and approve a change in auditors from Deloitte to Grant Thornton, to consider and approve draft Item 304 ("Change In Auditors") language for Delivery Agent's IPO filing documents. Declaration of Chris Power ("Power Dec.") at ¶¶1-24.⁵

3. Latham.

⁵ The scope of the Audit Committee's delegation from the Board relates to every aspect of Plaintiffs' case—the core of Plaintiffs' claims are that the investigations into the 2014 Superbowl ad campaign and the change in auditors should have been disclosed (in, at the least, the Financing Documents) to investors. According to Plaintiffs, the required Item 304 language describing the basis for changing auditors defeated Delivery Agent's ability to go public, and caused Delivery Agent's bankruptcy and the loss of Plaintiffs' investments. Plaintiffs have sued Defendants for violation of securities laws (10b5 and 20a) and California Corporations Code sections for acts and omissions related to the investigations, the remediation plan, the change in auditors, and the 304 language. Defendants' case necessarily relies on defeating scienter and supporting the good faith defense of the California Code and proving their business judgment and advice of counsel defenses. While advice of counsel requires showing legal advice from Latham, other matters are not so limited and can be supported by any information provided by Latham to Defendants (findings of fact, updates, drafts of the Financing Documents, etc.).

a. As Principal Legal Counsel.

Latham served as Delivery Agent's principal legal counsel. Latham attended every Board meeting and drafted all Board meeting minutes. Because of Latham's particular expertise in corporate matters, Delivery Agent General Counsel Mark Smith ultimately deferred to Latham in all matters relevant to this Motion. Smith Dec. at ¶¶2-3. Latham drafted the Financing Documents which form the sole basis for Plaintiffs' claims against several Defendants, and frequently sent edited versions of those documents directly to (without copying Defendants) investors, including Plaintiffs. Ferrari Dec. at ¶¶13, 20, 38, Exs. K and S; Declarations of James Peters ("Peters Dec.") at ¶5; and Michael Fitzsimmons ("Fitzsimmons Dec.") ¶2.

b. As Counsel to The Audit Committee.

- i. Latham's Representation of the Audit Committee in Connection with the Internal and External Investigations.

On or about February 6, 2014, allegations were made that a few Delivery Agent employees (none of whom are defendants) falsified data from a February 2, 2014 Super Bowl advertisement in which Delivery Agent partnered with H&M to sell David Beckham underwear. Delivery Agent employees rather than third parties had purchased a majority of the underwear. After being made aware of these allegations, the Audit Committee promptly arranged a meeting for February 8, 2014 and requested that Latham attend the meeting to provide legal advice. Power Dec. at ¶¶6-11; Smith Dec. at ¶4. At the meeting, Latham advised the Audit Committee regarding how to proceed, including whether an internal investigation should be commenced. *Id.* The Audit Committee, pursuant to Latham's advice, decided to proceed with an internal investigation. *Id.*

The Audit Committee instructed the general counsel, Mark Smith, to conduct the independent internal investigation on behalf of the Audit Committee, report to the Audit Committee throughout his investigation and, ultimately, present his findings directly to the Audit Committee. *Id.* Latham provided the Audit Committee with legal advice throughout the investigation, including by recommending best practices, explaining how to keep the investigation independent, drafting an internal investigation summary for the Audit Committee and advising how to address the internal investigation's findings. *Id.*; Ferrari Dec. at ¶14, Ex. E.

1 After Mr. Smith presented the internal investigation findings to the Audit Committee,
 2 Latham advised the Audit Committee about whether an investigation by an outside law firm should
 3 be conducted and recommended potential law firms to conduct the external investigation on behalf
 4 of the Audit Committee. Power Dec. at ¶¶12-13; Smith Dec. at ¶5. Upon Latham's advice and
 5 recommendation, the Audit Committee retained Bergeson LLP ("Bergeson") in the spring of 2014
 6 to conduct the external investigation. *Id.*; Ferrari Dec. at ¶26 Exs. L and M. Latham provided the
 7 Audit Committee with guidance throughout the course of the external investigations and drafted a
 8 summary of the external investigation findings for the Audit Committee. Power Dec. at ¶¶12-13;
 9 Smith Dec. at ¶5; Ferrari Dec. at ¶¶16-17, Exs. G and H.

10 After the internal and Bergeson investigations were completed, the Audit Committee
 11 worked closely with Latham to develop a remediation plan. Power Dec. at ¶¶14-15; Smith Dec. at
 12 ¶5; Ferrari Dec. at ¶¶ 17, 37, Exs. H and R. Patrick Pohlen of Latham was in very frequent
 13 communication with the Chairman of the Audit Committee, Defendant Power, regarding the
 14 specifics of the remediation plan to determine if it was sufficiently comprehensive and reasonably
 15 designed to achieve the goals for remediation of the behavior. Power Dec. at ¶¶14-15. Mr. Pohlen
 16 discussed each of the subparts of the remediation plan with the Audit Committee, and advised that
 17 the provisions of the remediation plan properly addressed the findings of the investigations. Since
 18 the remediation plan was developed in reliance on the advice of Latham given only to the Audit
 19 Committee, the Audit Committee reasonably believed that Latham was acting as its counsel. *Id.*
 20 As counsel for the Audit Committee, Mr. Pohlen ultimately sent the remediation plan to the full
 21 Board who thereafter approved it. *Id.*

22 ii. **Latham's Representation of the Audit Committee in
 23 Connection with the Change of Accountants and Item
 304.**

24 After learning of the internal investigation described above, Delivery Agent's then auditor,
 25 Deloitte, decided to suspend its work on Delivery Agent's financials. Nevertheless, in the hopes
 26 that Deloitte would restart its auditing work, the Audit Committee kept Deloitte apprised of all
 27 findings from the internal and Bergeson investigations, including by presenting the remediation
 28 plan and the Bergeson report to Deloitte. Power Dec. at ¶¶16; Ferrari Dec. at ¶¶17 and 37; Exs. H

1 and R. However, Deloitte refused to restart its work. On July 29, 2014, after receiving legal advice
 2 from Latham, the Board decided to switch auditors from Deloitte to Grant Thornton. Power Dec.
 3 at ¶¶16-18; Smith Dec. at ¶6; Ferrari Dec. at ¶17, Ex. H, *see* deKay testimony.

4 Under Item 304 of the SEC's regulations, Delivery Agent, if it made a filing with the SEC
 5 of an S-1 for an IPO, would be required to explain this change in accountants in that S-1. The
 6 Audit Committee relied upon Latham heavily in connection with this Item 304. Power Dec. at
 7 ¶¶18-21. Specifically, Latham drafted the initial Item 304 language explaining the change of
 8 accountants, which was sent to Deloitte on behalf of the Audit Committee. *Id.*; Ferrari Dec. at ¶18,
 9 Ex. I (e.g., CONNEKT 0293522-35); Smith Dec. at ¶7. Latham also revised and edited subsequent
 10 iterations of the language after Delivery Agent's former auditor, Deloitte, added specificity about
 11 the investigations and remediation plan to the Item 304. *Id.* Latham provided the Audit Committee
 12 with comprehensive advice about the specific language of the Item 304 throughout the
 13 Committee's discussions with Deloitte. *Id.* Latham further attended every Audit Committee
 14 meeting, during which it provided the Committee with legal advice, including advice concerning
 15 the Item 304/IPO.

16 In 2015, Latham admitted that the privilege related to the activities described in this
 17 subsection b. belonged to the Audit Committee. Ferrari Dec. at ¶41, Ex. U.

18 **c. As Counsel to Individual Defendants.**

19 Latham advised each of the individual defendants on their fiduciary duties and Mr.
 20 Fitzsimmons on whether or not he should disclose the investigations and change in accountant.
 21 Ferrari Dec. at ¶20, Ex. K; Fitzsimmons Dec. at ¶4, Exs. A and B.

22 **4. Waiver of Subpoenaed Matters Before the 2017 Trustee Appointment.**

23 To the extent Delivery Agent held any privilege, **from 2014 to 2015** while it was still a
 24 going concern, Delivery Agent voluntarily disclosed privileged communications and work product
 25 to third parties—including, but not limited to, its outside auditors (Deloitte and Grant Thornton),
 26 proposed but not yet retained auditors (Grant Thornton), potential new hires (Brian Erb),
 27 “mentors” (Lionsgate), underwriters (Credit Suisse, Barclays, Bank of Montreal, Deutsche Bank,
 28 and Macquarie), underwriters’ counsel (Davis Polk), potential investors (BTIG), and Plaintiffs—

1 regarding the two investigations, the remediation plan, the change in auditors, the 304 language
 2 which chronicled the investigations, the remediation plan, and change in auditors, and disclosures
 3 in the Financing Documents. Ferrari Dec. at ¶¶13-20, 41, Exs. E-K, U; Hagan Dec. at ¶¶1-5, Ex. A;
 4 Peters Dec. at ¶¶1-5, Ex. A; Fitzsimmons Dec. at ¶¶1-7, Ex. A; Smith Dec. at ¶¶1-7.

5 For example, Latham's advice on the internal investigation was initially disclosed, in
 6 Spring 2014, to Deloitte and Lionsgate. Ferrari Dec. at ¶15, Ex. F at Novelty testimony and
 7 CONNEKT0547712-13; *see also* ¶41, Ex. U (**wherein Latham admits, in 2015, that the**
 8 **privilege related to the internal investigation was waived**). Latham's advice on both the
 9 internal and external investigations, Latham's remediation plan based on Bergeson's report,
 10 Latham's advice to change accountants, and Latham's advice on the 304 was disclosed to:

- 11 • Deloitte in 2014 (when it was Delivery Agent's auditor) and 2015 (when it was no
 longer Delivery Agent's auditor) (Ferrari Dec. at ¶¶15, 17, 19, 41, Exs. F, H, J, U;
 Peters Dec. at ¶¶1-4; Smith Dec. at ¶7; Power Dec. at ¶¶16,18);
- 13 • Potential new auditor Grant Thornton in Summer 2014 (Ferrari Dec. at ¶17, Ex. H,
 deKay testimony);
- 15 • Potential new employee Brian Erb in 2015 (Hagan Dec. at ¶¶3-4, Ex. A);
- 16 • Underwriters and underwriters' counsel in 2014 and 2015 (Ferrari Dec. at ¶19, Ex.
 J; Hagan Dec. at ¶5; Fitzsimmons Dec. at ¶5);
- 17 • Potential new investors BTIG in 2015 (Fitzsimmons Dec. at ¶6); and
- 18 • Plaintiffs in 2015 (e.g., Peters Dec. at ¶¶3-4, Ex. A).

19 *See generally*, Ferrari Dec. at ¶¶13-20, 41. Latham's draft and final Financing Documents were
 20 disclosed to third parties and Plaintiffs in 2014 and 2015. (Ferrari Dec. at ¶20, 38, Exs. K and S).

21 **In September 2016**, Delivery Agent filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy. Request for Judicial
 22 Notice "RFJN"), Ex. A. During its pendency, Delivery Agent retained control over all of its
 23 property and continued managing its business as debtors-in-possession. Before confirmation of a
 24 reorganization plan, however, Delivery Agent—in "an appropriate exercise of [its] business
 25 judgment"—agreed to sell substantially all" of Delivery Agent's assets to a company named
 26 Hillair. As part of that transaction, Delivery Agent expressly agreed to transfer to Hillair both its
 27 "computer and computer-related hardware (including, computers, file servers, facsimile servers,
 28 scanners, printers, and networks)" as well as its "Documents," defined to include "all files,

1 documents, instruments, books, reports, records. . . letters, . . . and other similar materials, in each
 2 case whether or not in electronic form.” RFJN, Ex. B at §§ 1.1, 2.1(f), 2.1(i)). On November 18,
 3 2016, shortly after their acquisition, Hillair then transferred Delivery Agent’s assets to Connekt. *Id.*
 4 at § 12.8. In 2017, the bankruptcy was converted to a Chapter 7 and the current Trustee was
 5 appointed. RFJN, Ex. C. The Trustee is aware of the privilege issues, the subpoenas, and that this
 6 Motion will be made and has not taken any position on who holds privilege on Latham’s advice
 7 and whether privilege was waived prior to his appointment. Declaration of Gregory Markel
 8 (“Markel Dec.”) at ¶¶ 1-7.

9 **5. Use of Latham Documents On Subpoenaed Matters in this Litigation.⁶**

10 Plaintiffs served a subpoena on Connekt on or around July 25, 2018. Ferrari Dec. at ¶21.
 11 Connekt provided Defendants with all of the Delivery Agent documents it had received in the asset
 12 sale, and Defendants produced those documents to Plaintiffs in March and May 2019. Ferrari Dec.
 13 at ¶22. In total, approximately 210,000 Delivery Agent documents were produced through that
 14 production. *Id.* **Within those documents were the approximately 12,000 documents to, from,**
 15 **or by Latham.** *Id.* **Thousands** of the documents in the Connekt production showed Latham’s
 16 advice and work product were shared with third parties prior to filing Delivery Agent filing for
 17 bankruptcy. *Id.* at ¶¶23, 25. Third parties and Plaintiffs have also produced **thousands** of
 18 communications between them and Latham regarding Delivery Agent. *Id.*

19 Plaintiffs have used Latham advice and work product in every single deposition to date and
 20 clearly intend to use those documents to support their case while demanding Defendants be
 21 precluded from doing so. *See* Plaintiffs’ Motion to Strike. The number of deposition exhibits that
 22 were to, from and/or drafted by Latham are as follows: 1 at the deposition of Mac Hagel (third
 23 party), 1 at the deposition of Steve Lumboski (third party), 17 at the deposition of Michael Novelty
 24 (third party), 14 at the deposition of Timothy de Kay (third party), 5 at the deposition of

25
 26 ⁶ Plaintiffs also contend Murphy Pearson, Orrick Harrington & Sutcliff, and Bergeson,
 27 LLP were counsel with respect to Item 304. Thousands of documents with their
 28 communications/work product have already been produced by the parties and third parties to this
 litigation, and many have been used in depositions. Any such privilege with regard to Item 304
 has been waived. Ferrari Dec. at ¶¶19, 22, 24, Ex. J.

1 Christopher Nam (third party), 3 at the deposition of Patrick Kratus (third party), 1 at the
 2 deposition of Peter Lai, 8 at the deposition of Tej Shah (third party), 10 at the deposition of Souheil
 3 Badran, 18 at the deposition of Christian Borcher, and 14 at the deposition of James Peters. Many
 4 more referencing Latham and/or its advice have been used by Plaintiffs in deposition. *Id.* at ¶29. In
 5 Defendant Peters' deposition, **which was taken by Plaintiffs after they filed their Motion to**
 6 **Strike**, 22 of the 32 exhibits introduced by Plaintiffs were communications to and from, drafted by,
 7 or referencing Latham. *Id.* at ¶34. Plaintiffs did not mark that transcript confidential. *Id.* In
 8 Defendant Borcher's deposition, 20 of the 30 exhibits introduced were communications to and
 9 from, drafted by, or referencing Latham. *Id.* at ¶35. Plaintiffs did not mark Mr. Borcher's
 10 deposition confidential. *Id.* Plaintiffs have specifically elicited testimony regarding advice given
 11 by Latham when deposing Defendants and former Delivery Agent employees. *Id.* at ¶36.

12 **6. The Subpoenas and Latham's Objections.**

13 On July 11, 2019, Defendants served subpoenas on Latham in each case. Ferrari Dec. at
 14 ¶10, Ex. B. The 14 RFPs asked for documents on the Subpoena Matters. On August 6, 2019,
 15 Latham objected to all 14 RFPs stating that it will not produce "unless and until it receives either
 16 (i) direction from the holder of the privilege, or (ii) a court order determining whether otherwise
 17 applicable privileges or protections have been waived, and, if so, the extent of any such waiver."
 18 *Id.* at ¶11, Ex. C, emphasis added. On August 19, 2019, Defendants served deposition subpoenas
 19 on two Latham counsel. Latham opposes the deposition subpoenas for the same reasons it opposed
 20 the document subpoenas. Ferrari Dec. at ¶12, Ex. D.

21 **III. ARGUMENT**

22 The scope of discovery through a Rule 45 subpoena is the same as the scope of discovery
 23 permitted under Rule 26(b). *See, e.g., Lira v. Chipotle Mexican Grill, Inc.*, 2018 WL 2128707, at
 24 *2 (N.D.Cal. May 9, 2018) (explaining relationship between Rule 45 and Rule 26). Fed. R. Civ.
 25 P. 26(b)(1) (discovery permitted "regarding any non-privileged matter that is relevant to any
 26 party's claim or defense and proportional to the needs of the case"). Latham does not challenge the
 27 relevance of the matters sought by Defendants' subpoenas, or Defendants' need for the materials to
 28 support its defenses. Rather, it objects on the grounds that that the subpoenas seek the production

1 of documents and testimony protected from disclosure by the attorney-client privilege and the
 2 attorney work product doctrine.

3 As with all evidentiary privileges, the burden of proving that the attorney-client privilege or
 4 the work-product doctrine applies rests not with the party contesting the privilege, but with the
 5 party asserting it. *Weil v. Investment/Indicators, Research and Management, Inc.*, 647 F.2d 18, 25
 6 (9th Cir. 1981) (attorney-client privilege); *Sidibe v. Sutter Health*, 2018 WL 783808, at *2
 7 (N.D.Cal. 2018) (work-product). To meet its burden, the asserting party must affirmatively
 8 establish that neither the privilege nor the work-product protection has been waived. *Weil*, 647
 9 F.2d at 25; *Granite Partners v. Bear, Stearns & Co., Inc.*, 184 F.R.D. 49, 54 (S.D.N.Y. 1999)
 10 (party asserting work product protection must affirmatively establish nonwaiver).

11 Latham has not met its burden; indeed, it has made no effort to do so. That is because it
 12 cannot: Not only do the Audit Committee, and Delivery Agent's former officers and directors hold
 13 an independent privilege in the Subpoenaed Matters separate and apart from the corporate privilege
 14 (which they can waive), even if a corporate privilege attached, no valid underlying privilege
 15 remains in the Subpoenaed Matters for the Trustee to assert because Delivery Agent waived the
 16 privilege years before his appointment. And certainly, given Plaintiffs' cavalier use of the
 17 purportedly privileged documents, fairness and equity also dictate that any privilege attached to the
 18 Subpoenaed Matters be waived. The attorney-client privilege does not excuse Latham's failure to
 19 produce non-privileged documents or communications.

20 **A. The Bankruptcy Trustee Does Not Hold The Privilege.**

21 Latham's refusal to produce responsive documents "until it receives...further direction
 22 from the holder of the privilege" ignores that the Audit Committee—and not the Trustee—holds
 23 the privilege in the Subpoenaed Matters separate and apart from the corporate privilege.

24 **1. The Audit Committee Holds The Privilege Over the Subpoenaed
 25 Matters, Separate and Distinct From Any Corporate Privilege.**

26 The attorney-client privilege protects from disclosure communications between an attorney
 27 and a client, made in confidence, for the purpose of rendering or obtaining legal advice. Although
 28 a corporation may be the client of an attorney, it is an intangible entity that can act only through its

1 authorized agents. Consequently, an attorney's relationship and its communications are not with a
 2 corporate client, but rather with its managing agents. Circumstances may thus arise where an
 3 agent's communication with counsel gives rise to a separate attorney-client relationship with
 4 counsel, establishing an independent privilege separate and distinct from the corporate privilege.

5 Importantly, courts recognize that an audit committee of a corporation's board of directors
 6 is legally distinct from both the board as a whole and the corporation which it serves, and enjoys an
 7 identity and legal privileges distinct from either the larger board or the corporation.⁷ *See In re BCE*
 8 *West, L.P.*, No. M-8-85, 2000 WL 1239117, at *2 (S.D.N.Y. Aug. 31, 2000) ("Because the Special
 9 Committee is a separate and distinct group from the Board of Directors, with separate legal
 10 representation, the privilege afforded it is not the privilege of the corporation, but rather, is the
 11 privilege of the Special Committee."); *In re Woolworth Corp. Sec. Class Action Litig.*, 1996 WL
 12 306576, at *1 (S.D.N.Y. June 7, 1996) (recognizing the special committee of the board as the
 13 attorney's client for privilege purposes). *In re China Medical Tech., Inc.*, 522 B.R. 28, 37 (Bankr.
 14 S.D.N.Y. 2014) (audit committee of debtor, and not debtor, owned privileges, including attorney-
 15 client privilege, associated with legal services provided to committee).

16 Although Latham generally served as corporate counsel to Delivery Agent, it separately
 17 and independently provided legal services to the Audit Committee and its members with respect to
 18 the Subpoenaed Matters. Power Dec. at ¶¶1-24; Ferrari Dec. at ¶41, Ex. U. Consistent with its
 19

20 ⁷ In fact, an audit committee's distinct privilege was singled out for special protection by
 21 Congress when it enacted the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. *See* 15 U.S.C. 78j-1(m)(5) ("Each
 22 audit committee shall have the authority to engage independent counsel and other advisers, as it
 23 determines necessary to carry out its duties."). In its official release implementing Section 301
 24 of Sarbanes-Oxley, the SEC explained that the provision relating to audit committees, and the
 25 privileges inherent in it, is critical to the proper functioning of a company's audit committee: "To
 26 perform its role effectively ... an audit committee may need the authority to engage its own
 27 outside advisors ... as it determines necessary apart from counsel or advisors hired by
 28 management, especially when potential conflicts of interest with management may be apparent." SEC
 Release No. 33-8220, 2003 WL 1833875, at *9 (April 9, 2003). The audit committee
 function, in turn, is central to the integrity of a corporation's financial reporting process, which
 was both the spur and the goal of Sarbanes-Oxley. *See Id.* at *19 (April 9, 2003) ("The audit
 committee provides independent review and oversight of a company's financial reporting
 processes, internal controls and independent auditors. It provides a forum separate from
 management in which auditors and other interested parties can candidly discuss concerns.").

purpose and responsibilities, the Audit Committee exercised independent oversight over the corporation's financial reporting and the company's legal and regulatory compliance separate from Delivery Agent. Power Dec at ¶¶1-24. In this capacity—and as it was expressly empowered to do—the Audit Committee independently retained and separately sought Latham's advice on: (1) the two internal investigations into the 2014 Superbowl ad campaign, (2) the resulting remediation plan, (3) the change in auditors, including the disclosures required by S-K 304, the firing of Novelly and other individuals, and other financial and auditor issues.⁸ *Id.* Consistent with accepted principles of corporate governance, Latham's advice and recommendations were provided in confidence only to the Audit Committee, and without the participation of the corporation or its management—particularly as many of the issues on which Latham advised the Audit Committee related to members of the Board of Directors and other senior management.

Under such circumstances, the Audit Committee and its members hold their own privilege over the Subpoenaed Matters separate and distinct from that of the corporation. Because such privilege is not the corporate privilege, the Trustee has no control over it and the Audit Committee and its members are free, as they do so here, to waive it. *See Commodity Futures Trading Comm'n v. Weintraub*, 471 U.S. 343, 350 (1985) (Although a bankruptcy trustee may control the corporate privilege, it has no control over the privileges of parties other than the corporation).

2. **Delivery Agent's Officers and Directors Separately Hold A Privilege Over the Subpoenaed Matters.**

Courts have similarly recognized that because a corporation's officers and directors are responsible for the proper management of the corporation, they must be treated as a client and joint

⁸ In its role as counsel for the Audit Committee, Latham attended meetings with the AC and provided legal advice about the process to be used for the investigations, drafted summaries of the investigations for the AC to review, recommended the outside investigator to be used to make factual findings, hosted that investigator's presentation on his findings and instructed attendees not to keep a copy of the presentation, created and recommended the investigation remediation plan for the AC to approve, drafted and negotiated terminations for Novelly and Gabe Greenberg - the employee who sent bad data, determined a change in auditors was required and recommended GT, drafted and negotiated the Item 304 language, and drafted and disseminated the Financing Documents which did not disclose the investigations or change of accountants. Power Dec. at ¶¶1-24.

1 holders of the privilege when legal advice applicable to all is rendered to one or more of its officers
 2 or directors. *See Glidden Co. v. Jandernoa*, 173 F.R.D. 459, 473 (W.D. Mich. 1997) (“directors
 3 have a right to access attorney communications of the company relating to the time they served as
 4 directors” because the entire board is the client of the corporation’s counsel); *Harris v. Wells*, 1990
 5 WL 150455, at 3-4 (D. Conn. Sept. 5, 1990) (director could not assert attorney-client privilege
 6 against his fellow corporate directors); *Hercules, Inc. v. Exxon Corp.*, 434 F. Supp. 136, 145 (D.
 7 Del. 1977) (“Since a corporation acts only through its representatives the Court must distinguish
 8 between those employees who act as representatives of the corporation and those who do not. Only
 9 the former qualify as “clients” for the purpose of the privilege.”).

10 Under this rationale, courts have rejected a corporation’s attempts to withhold as privileged
 11 documents sought by former officers and directors. *See, e.g., Gottlieb v. Wiles*, 143 F.R.D. 241,
 12 247 (D. Colo. 1992) (granting former director’s motion to compel attorney-client privileged and
 13 work product protected documents from corporation generated during his tenure); *Kirby v. Kirby*,
 14 1987 WL 14862 at *7 (Del. Ch. July 29, 1987) (ordering corporation to produce documents to
 15 former director, explaining “[t]he directors are all responsible for the proper management of the
 16 corporation, and it seems consistent with their joint obligations that they be treated as the ‘joint
 17 client’ when legal advice is rendered to the corporation through one of its officers or directors”);
 18 *Moore Bus. Forms, Inc. v. Cordant Holdings Corp.*, 1996 WL 307444 at *4 n. 4 (Del. Ch. June 4,
 19 1996) (clarifying that when a lawyer advises a corporation there is a single client, the entire board,
 20 and ordering production of documents to plaintiffs, former directors of corporation).

21 All Defendants were officers or directors of Delivery Agent and the individuals through
 22 which Latham passed its legal advice related to the Subpoenaed Matters. Defendants approached
 23 Latham on numerous occasions for the purpose of seeking legal advice, making it clear that they
 24 were doing so in their individual capacity rather than their representative capacity (e.g., with
 25 respect to their individual fiduciary duties), and Latham plainly saw fit to communicate with
 26 individual Defendants in their individual capacities. Ferrari Dec. at ¶27, Ex. N (wherein Latham
 27 provided each Defendant individual advice on their fiduciary duties to Delivery Agent -- the issue
 28 at the core of this securities litigation); Fitzsimmons Dec. at ¶¶3-4, Exs. A and B. (wherein Latham

1 advised Mr. Fitzsimmons not to disclose the investigations or the change in auditors to investors --
 2 exact factual matter at issue in this litigation). Surely, Latham is sophisticated enough to recognize
 3 possible conflicts could arise, but saw fit to communicate with Defendants on their individual
 4 liability. Each individual defendant, therefore, can claim a personal privilege with Latham's
 5 counsel. *See United States v. Graf*, 610 F.3d 1148, 1159–60 (9th Cir. 2010) (adopting test
 6 established by the Third Circuit to determine claims of personal privilege with a client
 7 corporation's counsel). Each, therefore, are properly clients of Latham—separate and distinct from
 8 the corporate client—for purposes of the attorney-client privilege with the power to waive it.

9 **B. No Valid Underlying Privilege Exists For the Trustee to Assert Because
 10 Delivery Agent Waived Any Privilege Before His Appointment.**

11 Even if a corporate privilege attached, no valid underlying privilege remains in the
 12 Subpoenaed Matters for the Trustee to assert because the privilege was waived before his
 13 appointment. *See Securities Investor Protection Corp. v. Stratton Oakmont, Inc.*, 213 B.R. 433,
 14 439–40 (Bankr. S.D. N.Y. 1997) (Although control of the corporate privilege passes to an
 15 appointed bankruptcy trustee upon the corporation's bankruptcy, the trustee acquires no more right
 16 to assert the privilege than the entity controlling the privilege possessed before the appointment).

17 **1. Delivery Agent Waived Any Privilege By Its Pre-Bankruptcy
 18 Disclosures of the Subpoenaed Matters To Third-Parties.**

19 The disclosure of a privileged communication to a third party waives the attorney-client
 20 privilege that attached to the communication. *Optronic Technologies, Inc. v. Ningbo Sunny
 21 Electronic Co., Ltd.*, 2018 WL 5886013, at *2 (N.D. Cal. 2018), *citing Weil v.
 22 Investment/Indicators, Research & Management, Inc.*, 647 F.2d 18, 25 (9th Cir. 1981). Likewise,
 23 disclosure of work-product protected documents to a third party not aligned in interest with the
 24 privilege holder also waives any work product protection attached to the communication.
 25 *Diasonics Securities Litig.*, 1986 WL 53402 (N.D. Cal., June 15, 1986) (disclosure of work product
 26 to third party whose interests may not have been aligned waives work product protection);
 27 *Medinol, Ltd. v. Boston Scientific Corp.*, 214 F.R.D. 113, 115 (S.D.N.Y. 2002) (same).

28 The scope of such waiver is not limited solely to the communications disclosed, but rather

1 extends to any undisclosed communication or work product on the same subject matter. *Phoenix*
 2 *Solutions Inc. v. Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.*, 254 F.R.D. 568, 576 (N.D. Cal. 2008) (“the voluntary
 3 disclosure of the attorney communication constituted a waiver of the privilege as to all other such
 4 communications on the same subject matter. This is, of course, black letter law.”); *See, e.g., S.E.C.*
 5 *v. Roberts*, 254 F.R.D. 371, 378 (N.D. Cal. 2008) (When either privilege [attorney-client or work
 6 product] is waived, its scope extends to “all communications on the same subject matter ... so that a
 7 party is prevented from disclosing communications that support its position while simultaneously
 8 concealing communications that do not.”); *Board of Trustees of Leland Stanford Junior University*
 9 *v. Roche Molecular Systems, Inc.*, 237 F.R.D. 618, 623 (N.D. Cal. 2006) (treating the scope of the
 10 waiver of attorney-client privilege and work product protection as the same—extending to
 11 undisclosed documents on the same subject matter—because the voluntary disclosure substantially
 12 increased the possibility of an opposing party obtaining the privilege and thus defeated the policy
 13 underlying work product protection); *see also* Fed. R. Evid. 502(a), (b).

14 Importantly, whether the privilege holder had the subjective intent to waive the privilege is
 15 irrelevant; the focus instead is on the act of disclosure to a party outside the attorney-client
 16 relationship. *Tennenbaum v. Deloitte & Touche*, 77 F.3d 337, 341 (9th Cir. 1996) (“we have
 17 admonished that the focal point of privilege waiver analysis should be the holder's disclosure of
 18 privileged communications to someone outside the attorney-client relationship, not the holder's
 19 intent to waive the privilege”); *see also Bittaker v. Woodford*, 331 F.3d 715, 720 n. 4 (9th Cir.
 20 2003) (“an express waiver need not be effectuated by words or accompanied by the litigant's
 21 subjective intent”) (citations omitted). As a result, to establish an applicable attorney-client
 22 privilege, the party asserting the privilege must affirmatively demonstrate non-waiver. *United*
 23 *States v. Gann*, 732 F. 2d 714, 723 (9th Cir. 1984); [*see also McCafferty's, Inc. v. Bank of Glen*
 24 *Burnie*, 1998 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 12859, *17–20 (D. Md. Jan. 26, 1998) (simply claiming did not
 25 know how third party obtained privilege documents insufficient for privilege holder to satisfy
 26 burden to show non-waiver)].

27 Tellingly, while it asserts the attorney-client and work-product doctrine as the basis for its
 28 refusal to produce responsive documents, Latham makes no effort to demonstrate affirmatively the

1 existence of the privilege and its non-waiver. That is because it cannot make the requisite
 2 showing; indeed, not only did Defendants hold the privilege with the power to waive it, Delivery
 3 Agent also waived any privilege attached to the Subpoenaed Matters years before it entered into
 4 bankruptcy through its disclosures of a significant portion of its communications with Latham
 5 and/or Latham's work product to various third-parties.

6 Specifically, between 2014 and 2015—well before it entered into bankruptcy—Delivery
 7 Agent voluntarily disclosed a number of its privileged communications with Latham and/or
 8 Latham's privileged work product regarding the two investigations, the remediation plan, the
 9 change in auditors, and the 304 language which chronicled the investigations, and drafts of the
 10 Financing Documents to various parties outside of the attorney-client relationship, including but
 11 not limited to its outside auditors,⁹ proposed but not yet retained auditors, potential new hires,
 12 “mentors,” underwriters, underwriters’ counsel, potential investors, and Plaintiffs.¹⁰ See Section II,

13 ⁹ Courts have routinely found voluntary disclosures to auditors waive the attorney-client
 14 privilege and work-product protection. *See, e.g., Chevron Corp. v. Pennzoil Co.*, 974 F.2d 1156,
 15 1162 (9th Cir. 1992) (“Pennzoil concedes that the district court was correct in ordering
 16 disclosure of the documents actually provided to the outside auditor.”); *In re Juniper Networks,
 17 Inc. Securities Litigation*, 2009 WL 4644534, at *2 (N.D.Cal. 2009) (“even if the attorney-client
 18 privilege initially attached to the communications, the Audit Committee’s disclosure of the
 19 substance of the communications to Juniper’s outside auditors effected a waiver of the
 20 privilege”); *In re Subpoena Duces Tecum Served on Willkie Farr & Gallagher*, 1997 WL
 21 118369, *3 (S.D. N.Y. 1997) (corporation waived privilege by disclosing results of an internal
 22 investigation of company’s accounting practices, policies and procedures performed by outside
 23 law firm to auditor in order to obtain an unqualified audit opinion); *Diasomics Securities Litig.*,
 24 1986 WL 53402 at * (N.D. Cal., June 15, 1986) (concluding that the work product protection did
 25 not apply to documents disclosed to an auditor acting as a public accountant); *Medinol, Ltd. v.
 26 Boston Scientific Corp.*, 214 F.R.D. 113 (S.D.N.Y. 2002) (concluding that work product
 27 protection was waived with respect to litigation committee minutes that were disclosed to outside
 28 auditor because the auditor’s interests were not aligned with the company).

10 Like auditors, an underwriter is not only a third party but its interests not aligned with
 23 the corporation. *See Joseph K. Leahy, What Due Diligence Dilemma? Re-Envisioning
 24 Underwriters’ Continuous Due Diligence After WorldCom*, 30 Cardozo L. Rev. 2001, 2013-14
 25 (2009) (an underwriter’s duties include independently verifying information about the issuer, and
 26 involves consulting sources both inside and outside the issuer); Thomas Lee Hazen, *Defenses
 27 Under 1933 Act Section 11(b)—Underwriters’ Liabilities*, 2 Law Sec. Reg. § 7:36 (May 2019)
 28 (an underwriter’s presence in an offering can act as an implied representation that the
 underwriter has investigated the issuer). Accordingly, voluntary disclosure to an underwriter
 should result in a waiver of both attorney-client privilege and work product protection. *See, e.g., Rhone-Poulenc Rorer Inc. v. Home Indem. Co.*, 1993 WL 106429, at *2 (E.D.Pa. 1993)
 (holding that corporation waived the attorney-client privilege and work-product protection by

4-5, *supra*. Regardless of the intent behind these disclosures, they constitute pre-bankruptcy waivers of the attorney-client privilege or work product protection in the Subpoenaed Matters.

2. Delivery Agent Waived Any Remaining Privilege While A Debtor-In-Possession When It Sold Substantially All of Its Assets in 2016.

When confidential corporate-client privileged communications are transferred to a third party in connection with the sale of some or all of the corporation’s assets, the selling party waives any privilege still in effect as to those communications—particularly where, as here, the seller takes no reasonable measures to ensure their confidentiality. *See, e.g., In re In-Store Advertising Sec. Litig.*, 163 F.R.D. 452, 458 (S.D.N.Y. 1995) (“[W]here confidential attorney-client communications are transferred from a corporation selling assets to the corporation buying the assets, the privilege is waived as to those communications . . .”); *Kaufman v. Sungard Invest. Sys.*, 05-cv-1236, 2006 WL 1307882 (D.N.J. May 10, 2006) (transfer of privileged emails on company computer as part of asset sale both “deliberate” and a waiver of the privilege when no reasonable measures taken to withhold emails or ensure their confidentiality); *Society of Professional Engineering Employees in Aerospace v. Boeing Co.*, C.A. No. 05-1251-MLB, 2010 WL 3083536 (D. Kan. Aug. 5, 2010) (seller waived attorney-client privilege over pre-closing emails by transferring them to seller after closing and made no effort to protect them during the pre-sale process); *see also GOT I, LLC v. XRT, Inc.*, 2017 WL 3113408, *2 (N.D. Ga. Feb. 28, 2017) (attorney-client privilege waived by disclosure of emails as part of asset sale); *Stooksbury v. Ross*, No. 3:09-CV-498, 2012 WL 3779113, at *3 (E.D. Tenn. Aug. 31, 2012) (privilege “unequivocally waived via the selling of” computers containing privileged communications with counsel).

In September 2016, Delivery Agent filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy. RFJN, Ex. A. During its pendency, Delivery Agent retained control over all of its property and continued managing its business as debtors-in-possession. Before confirmation of a reorganization plan, however, Delivery

disclosing outside counsel's analysis of liabilities assumed in corporate acquisition to bank that had been serving as a the corporation's "investment advisor" before and after acquisition); *Randleman v. Fidelity Nat. Title Ins. Co.*, 2008 WL 4683297, *2 (N.D. Ohio 2008) (waiver found by discussing counsel's advice with agents, brokers and lenders—all third parties to the lawsuit suit).

1 Agent—in “an appropriate exercise of [its] business judgment”—agreed to sell substantially all” of
 2 Delivery Agent’s assets including the company’s computers, files, servers and networks to Hillair.
 3 RFJN, Ex. B at §§ 1.1, 2.1(f), 2.1(i)). On November 18, 2016, shortly after their acquisition,
 4 Hillair then transferred Delivery Agent’s assets to Connekt. *Id.* at § 12.8. The following year, the
 5 bankruptcy was converted to a Chapter 7 and the current Trustee was appointed. RFJN, Ex. C.

6 Delivery Agent’s communications with Latham, along with Latham’s work product, and
 7 other information prepared by Latham for Delivery Agent resided in the company’s computers,
 8 files, servers and networks. Yet no evidence exists—and Latham certainly has proffered none—
 9 that Delivery Agent made any effort to identify, remove or segregate its privileged
 10 communications with, or work product prepared by, Latham, from its computers, servers, networks
 11 or files before transferring them to Hillair. Likewise, no evidence exists that Delivery Agent took
 12 any steps to claw-back, delete or otherwise protect its privileged communications and work-
 13 product before Hillair subsequently transferred the assets to Connekt. Certainly, the asset purchase
 14 agreement provides no provisions for the protection of Delivery Agent’s privileged
 15 communications and attorney work product with respect to the sale of Delivery Agent’s servers.

16 Under the circumstances, no merit exits to Latham’s claim that the attorney-client privilege
 17 precludes its disclosure of the Subpoenaed Matters in response to Defendants’ subpoenas. To the
 18 extent Delivery Agent held any privilege over such matters, it waived it long before the
 19 appointment of the Chapter 7 bankruptcy trustee. Delivery Agent took no reasonable measures to
 20 protect its privileged communications and attorney work-product from disclosure to third-parties,
 21 including Hillair and Connekt. And, importantly, in October 2018, Connekt reviewed and
 22 disclosed—without objection from Delivery Agent or its estate—over 210,000 documents from
 23 Delivery Agent’s computers, servers, networks and files, including Delivery Agent’s privileged
 24 communications with Latham and Latham’s work product, to the parties.¹¹ Ferrari Dec. at ¶21.

25 ¹¹ The privileged status of communications between Delivery Agent and Latham was
 26 extinguished once the assets containing those communications were transferred to third-parties
 27 Hillair and Connekt. Alternatively, control of the privilege passed to Hillair and/or Connekt
 28 when they acquired “substantially all” of Delivery Agent’s assets. *Parus Holdings, Inc. v.
 Banner & Witcoff, Ltd.*, 585 F. Supp. 2d 995 (N.D. Ill. 2008) (privilege transfers to buyer);
Soverain Software LLC v. The Gap, Inc., 340 F. Supp. 2d 760 (E.D. Tex. 2004); *SimpleAir, Inc.*

1 **C. The Court Cannot Reasonably Continue The Fiction That The Attorney-**
 2 **Client Privilege Will Protect The Confidentiality of the Subpoenaed Matters.**

3 The attorney-client privilege is intended to maintain the confidentiality of the
 4 communications between an attorney and its client. *See, e.g., United States v. Palmer*, 536 F. 2d
 5 1278, 1281 (9th Cir. 1976). Once the proverbial cat is out of the bag, the privilege's underlying
 6 purpose of maintaining confidentiality is defeated and the communications are no longer worthy of
 7 protection. *Dukes v. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.*, 2013 WL 1282892, at *7 (N.D. Cal., Mar. 26, 2013);
 8 *see also Chemeon Surface Tech., LLC v. Metalast Int'l, Inc.*, 2016 WL 4967716, at *3 (D. Nev.
 9 Sept. 15, 2016) (“Since the basis for the attorney-client privilege is to protect confidential
 10 communications, that purpose ends when confidential communications are voluntarily disclosed to
 11 a third party”); *AT&T Corp. v. Microsoft Corp.*, 2003 WL 21212614, at *5 (N.D. Cal., Apr. 18,
 12 2003)(“the attorney-client privilege is about maintaining confidentiality”); *Feshbach v. S.E.C.*, 5 F.
 13 Supp. 2d 774, 784 (N.D. Cal. 1997) (The attorney-client privilege applies only to maintain the
 14 confidentiality of information claimed to be privileged). In other words, once confidentiality is
 15 lost, a communication cannot meet the standard to establish privilege; confidentiality—once
 16 destroyed—cannot be restored.

17 Under the circumstances here, no reasonable basis exists for Latham to continue the fiction
 18 that the Subpoenaed Matters remain confidential and privileged. For example, in response to
 19 Plaintiffs' subpoenas, Connekt produced to both Plaintiffs and Defendants over 27,000 attorney-
 20 client communications with or attorney work-product documents related to the Subpoenaed
 21 Matters from the Delivery Agent computers, servers, networks and files it acquired from Hillair (of
 22 these, there were approximately 12,000 communications and documents created, sent, or received
 23 by Latham pertaining to the Subpoenaed Matters). Ferrari Dec. at ¶¶22, 24. Moreover, third-
 24 parties to this litigation have also produced to Plaintiffs and Defendants thousands of attorney-

25
 26 *v. Microsoft Corp.*, No. 2:11-cv-416, 2013 WL 4574594 (E.D. Tex. Aug. 27, 2013). Under
 27 either scenario, no valid underlying privilege in the Subpoenaed Matters exists for either Latham
 28 or the Trustee to assert because the privilege has been waived; indeed, Connekt's production of
 Delivery Agent's privileged documents and Latham's work product is the ultimate voluntary
 waiver of any privilege that might still have attached to the communications.

1 client communications and attorney work-product documents, including communications between
 2 Defendants themselves and counsel pertaining to the Subpoenaed Matters, which were previously
 3 disclosed to them before the appointment of the Trustee. Ferrari Dec. at ¶¶22-26.

4 Significantly, although Plaintiffs now claim that these attorney-client communications and
 5 work-product documents produced are privileged against disclosure, they certainly have reviewed
 6 those documents, and have selectively used (and continue to use) them in their depositions of party
 7 affiliated witnesses and third-parties. Ferrari Dec. at ¶28-40. *Compare Fed. R. Civ. P. 26 (b)(5)*
 8 (requiring attorney inadvertently receiving privileged information to: (i) “promptly return,
 9 sequester, or destroy” the material(s); (ii) “not use or disclose the information until the claim is
 10 resolved”; and (iii) “take reasonable steps to retrieve the information if the [receiving] party
 11 disclosed it before being notified.”); *see also* ABA Model Rule 44(b).¹² In fact, even after
 12 Plaintiffs filed their Motion to Strike, they introduced 27 exhibits (and testimony) regarding
 13 privileged communications, 22 of which were communications to, from, drafted by, or referencing
 14 Latham, without designating them confidential. Ferrari Dec. at ¶34.

15 Even if these attorney-client communications and attorney-work product documents were
 16 inadvertently disclosed, their confidentiality has been lost, and no order by the Court can restore
 17 it—particularly where, as here, Plaintiffs have used, tactically and selectively, the purportedly
 18 confidential documents produced to elicit testimony regarding advice given by Latham when
 19 deposing Defendants, former Delivery Agent employees, and third parties. Since the basis for the
 20 attorney-client privilege is to protect confidential communications, attaching the attorney-client
 21 privilege to the Subpoenaed Matters now here serves no purpose.

22 **D. Fairness and Equity Requires Waiver of The Attorney-Client Privilege.**

23 In deciding whether the attorney-client privilege is waived, “the most important
 24 consideration is fairness.” *Bierman v. Marcus*, 122 F. Supp. 250, 252 (D.N.J. 1954). Certainly,
 25 the Trustee cannot invoke the privilege as to matters in which he does not hold the privilege, or as
 26

27 ¹² *See also In re Kennedy*, 143 B.R. 776 (D. Colo. 1992) (If a third party is given notice
 28 of the potential breach of the confidentiality of his attorney-client communications, his failure to
 object constitutes a waiver).

1 to matter whose privilege was waived before his appointment or whose confidentiality has already
 2 been compromised. (*See Section II, 2-5 supra*). Nor, under the circumstances, can the Trustee
 3 invoke the privilege to cover undisclosed privileged communications on the same subject matter as
 4 the communications already disclosed. Fed. R. Evid. 502(a), (b); *Phoenix*, 254 F.R.D. at 576.

5 But fairness and equity also preclude the Trustee any anyone else from asserting the
 6 attorney-client privilege to prevent Defendants' introduction of evidence to support their defense of
 7 this action—including evidence supporting their advice-of-counsel defense, or of their use of a
 8 process involving counsel or other professionals or other expert advisors to negate scienter,
 9 establish good faith, demonstrate the proper exercise of their business judgment and similar issues.
 10 *See e.g., S.E.C. v. TenFold Corp.*, 2005 WL 7874298, at *2 (D. Utah Aug. 19, 2005) (holding that
 11 former officers were entitled to documents to support an advice-of-counsel defense over
 12 corporation's privilege objection based on "limited exception to the attorney-client privilege under
 13 the unique facts and circumstances presented"); *Moskowitz v. Lopp*, 128 F.R.D. 624, 638 (E.D. Pa.
 14 1989) (permitting officers to raise advice of counsel defense without the consent of the
 15 corporation, holding: "[a]lthough in theory the privilege belongs to the corporation, fairness
 16 dictates that it be waived where a corporate officer asserts the reliance on counsel defense"); *Bisno*
 17 *v. U.S.*, 299 F. 2d 711, 719 (9th. Cir. 1961) (evidence of involvement of counsel in decision-
 18 making process may be treated as a circumstance indicating good faith which the trier of fact is
 19 entitled to consider on the issue of fraudulent intent); *Howard v. S.E.C.*, 376 F.3d 1136 (D.C. Cir.
 20 2004) (officer entitled to introduce evidence that law firm oversaw the closing of an offering at its
 21 law offices, drafted the documents for another offering, and conveyed its approval of the
 22 transaction to the defendant's superior even if not a formal "advice-of-counsel" defense because it
 23 "constituted powerful evidence" that the defendant did not act with scienter); *S.E.C. v. Prince*,
 24 2013 WL 1831841 (D. D.C. May 2, 2013) (finding no scienter based on evidence that defendant
 25 sought advice from company's lawyers through superior and in good faith relied on the advice
 26 received in response; even though evidence was not necessarily an "advice-of-counsel" defense it
 27 was probative of the defendant's good faith); *S.E.C. v. Ferrone*, 2016 WL 824721 (N.D. Ill. Feb.
 28 22, 2016) (denying S.E.C.'s motion in limine to exclude evidence of the involvement of lawyers

and other professionals in putting together transaction and public disclosure documents where defendant did not establish the elements of a formal “advice-of-counsel” defense, and finding that “the S.E.C.’s motion does not fully account for the issue of good faith and the ways in which it might be raised legitimately by Ferrone to contest the scienter element of the S.E.C.’s case.”); *Cf. States v. W.R. Grace*, 439 F.Supp.2d 1125, 1142 (D. Mont. 2006) (concluding that assertion of privilege by corporation had to yield where its invocation is incompatible with former employees’ Sixth Amendment right to present evidence in their defense).

Indeed, application of the corporate attorney-client privilege here would stand the privilege on its head—giving protection to a defunct incorporeal entity that both no longer needs its protection and has waived it,¹³ at the expense of Defendants right to present evidence of their communications with counsel to support their defense of the claims against them. Under the circumstances, the rationale of the corporate attorney-client privilege is, at best, strained because those who the privilege is intended to encourage to communicate with counsel (directors, officers and employees) would be barred from presenting evidence that they did so. At the same time Plaintiffs have used the documents to build a case with every single witness (including third party witnesses) who have been deposed, while simultaneously and hypocritically seeking to prevent Defendants from using those documents. Ferrari Dec. at ¶¶14, 18, 20, 28-39; (*see especially* the following exhibits establishing Plaintiffs' use of the following in depositions: Ex. T (the February 7, 2014 emails from Delivery Agent General Counsel Mark Smith to the Audit Committee and Latham regarding the 2014 Superbowl campaign); Ex. E (Latham's summary of the internal investigation); Ex. M (the Bergeson report commissioned by the Audit Committee at Latham's direction); Ex. R (Latham's remediation plan); Ex. I (Latham's drafts of the Item 304), and Exs. K

¹³ *Lopes v. Vieira*, 688 F. Supp. 2d 1050 (E.D. Cal. 2010), *on reconsideration*, 719 F. Supp. 2d 1199 (E.D. Cal. 2010) (although corporate entity existed, it had no operations, nor management, nor assets, nor activities of any kind. Privilege policies did not support recognizing that the shell entity retained power to assert or waive the privilege); *TAS Distributing Co., Inc. v. Cummins Inc.*, 2009 WL 3255297 (C.D. Ill. 2009) (the privilege did not survive the corporation's death); *Lewis v. U.S.*, 2004 WL 3203121 (W.D. Tenn. 2004), *order aff'd*, 96 A.F.T.R.2d 2005-5300, 2005 WL 1926655 (W.D. Tenn. 2005) (bankrupt corporation found to be "defunct" when it had no assets or liabilities, nor did it have shareholders, directors or employees, "attorney-client privilege cannot be applied to a defunct corporation").

1 and S ((Latham's drafts of the Financing Documents). Under the circumstances, it would be
 2 unconscionable to find that the corporate attorney-client privilege stands in the way of Defendants
 3 attempts to defend themselves against Plaintiffs' claims.

4 Similarly, fairness and equity also require full disclosure where, as here, there has been
 5 some disclosure of confidential communications while other related confidential communications
 6 have not been disclosed. *See eg. Teachers Ins. and Annuity Ass'n of America v. Shamrock*
Broadcasting Co., Inc., 521 F. Supp. 638, 641 (S.D. N.Y. 1981) (partial disclosure risks that one
 7 litigant will paint a distorted picture of the facts from information disclosed, while unfairly
 8 depriving the opposing party of access to all the facts relevant to the particular subject matter in the
 9 already disclosed documents; "When a party discloses part of an otherwise privileged
 10 communication, he must in fairness disclose the entire communication, or at least so much of it as
 11 will make the disclosure complete and not misleadingly one-sided.")

12 Undoubtedly, Defendants will be unfairly prejudiced by application of the attorney-client
 13 privilege to the Subpoenaed Matters. Plaintiffs have relied on misleadingly, one-sided privileged
 14 communications and documents already disclosed both in support of their claims and to evoke
 15 testimony from party-affiliated witnesses and third-parties. Nonetheless, they now want to preclude
 16 Defendants' discovery of and use of communications and documents already disclosed (or yet to
 17 be disclosed) that are damaging to its claims or explain Latham's advice. Plainly, the attorney-
 18 client privilege was not designed to be used as a tactical tool to prejudice an opposing party—
 19 particularly, where, as here, the purported privilege holder has not affirmatively asserted the
 20 privilege. Markel Dec. at ¶¶1-7. Simply put, the Court cannot fairly and equitably enforce the
 21 privilege when it operates as a tactical advantage to Plaintiffs to the prejudice of Defendants.

22 **E. The Attorney-Client Privilege Does Not Excuse Latham's Failure To Produce
 23 Documents To Which The Privilege Does Not Apply.**

24 Not every confidential communication between a corporate agent and counsel is protected
 25 by the corporate-client privilege; indeed, corporate agents frequently seek the assistance of
 26 attorneys on non-legal as well as legal matters. *See, e.g., Teltron Inc. v. Alexander*, 132 F.R.D. 394
 27 (E.D.Pa.1990) (When an attorney offers business advice, instead of legal advice, to a client, the
 28

privilege does not apply); *McFadden v. Norton Co.*, 118 F.R.D. 625 (D. Neb. 1988); *Georgia-Pacific Corp. v. GAF Roofing Mfg. Corp.*, No. 93 Civ. 5125, 1996 WL 29392 (S.D.N.Y. Jan. 25, 1996). Similarly, matters that are tangential to the legal communications are not covered by the privilege. See e.g., *Haddock v. Nationwide Financial Services, Inc.*, 2009 WL 3734059 (D. Conn. 2009) (topic of attorney-client communications, not privileged); *U.S. v. Freese*, 2006 WL 1041820 (D. Neb. 2006) (communications scheduling attorney-client meetings); *United States ex rel. Barko v. Halliburton Company*, 2014 WL 6657103 (D.D.C. 2014) (documents that reference whether a communication took place); *Heartland Surgical Specialty Hosp., LLC v. Midwest Div., Inc.*, 2007 WL 2192885, *11 (D. Kan. 2007) (Names of those who attended a meeting with counsel).

Latham's blanket assertion that the requested documents are protected by the attorney client privilege, therefore, is inappropriate. See *Federal Deposit Ins. Corp. v. W.R. Grace & Co.*, 1987 WL 7810, *1 (N.D. Ill. 1987). (Privilege "is not a blanket defense to discovery. It can be asserted to prevent production of specific documents but its assertion should be made to specific identified documents so that counsel or the court can make a determination of the applicability of the privilege."); *U.S. v. Willis*, 565 F. Supp. 1186, 1189, 13 Fed. R. Evid. Serv. 1758 (S.D. Iowa 1983); *In re Rospatch Securities Litigation*, 1991 WL 574963 (W.D. Mich. 1991); *In re Shopping Carts Antitrust Litigation*, 95 F.R.D. 299, 305, 34 Fed. R. Serv. 2d 778 (S.D. N.Y. 1982). The Connekt productions establish Latham has many documents that were sent, received or drafted by Latham and given to third parties/Plaintiffs. Ferrari Dec. at ¶¶ 22-23. Nothing excuses Latham's failure to produce those documents. Moreover, Defendants are entitled to any documents wherein Latham is not providing "advice" but rather findings of fact. Latham has not engaged in any such analysis to determine whether it has documents responsive to Defendants' subpoenas.

IV. CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, Defendants request that the Court enter an Order compelling documents and testimony.

DATED: August 27, 2019

SEYFARTH SHAW LLP

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